

REMARKS

Reconsideration of this application is respectfully requested in view of the foregoing amendment and the remarks that follow.

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CLAIM REJECTIONS - Double Patenting

Claim 1 - 26 are rejected under the judicially created doctrine of double patenting over claims of U.S. Patent No. 6,311,571. Applicant includes a terminal disclaimer and the fee herewith.

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CLAIM REJECTIONS - 35 USC § 102(b)

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Independent Claim 18

Regarding independent Claim 18 Examiner asserts:

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Madden discloses a sensor for detecting vibration including a flexible moving beam supported and attached to flexible legs (arms), parallel to each other and perpendicular to a support, and a force sensing transducer generating an electric signal (see, for example, claim 1).

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In response to Examiner's rejection, Applicant has amended Claim 18 to recite (emphasis added):

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"said moving arm force responder also comprises precisely two arms each extending from said base parallel to said first direction".

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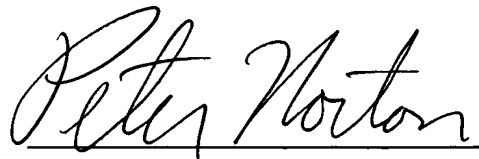
By reciting "precisely two arms" Applicant's Claim 18 (as twice amended) is clearly distinguished from the invention of Madden, et al. in which the flexible element 28, which corresponds to the "base" of Applicant's Claim 18, has three elements (14, 16, and 20) extending. The three elements 14, 16 and 20 of Madden et al. correspond to Applicant's "arms". Therefore, Applicants invention as defined Applicant's Claim 18 (as twice amended) is distinguished from Madden et al. by having "precisely two arms" rather than the three "arms" of Madden et al.

It is respectfully submitted that Claim 18 as amended is in condition for allowance and favorable action is requested. It is further submitted that Claims 19 through 26, which are dependent on Claim 18, should be allowed with Claim 18.

CONCLUSION

It is submitted that all claims are now in condition for allowance and favorable action is respectfully solicited.

Respectfully submitted,



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Markup illustrating amendments to Claim 18

18. (Twice Amended) A force sensor comprising:

5 a sensor and a moving arm force responder, and
wherein:

 said moving arm force responder comprises a base
having a first [surface] member adapted to receive a first force
10 [perpendicular to said first surface],

said first force defines a first direction,

 said moving arm force responder also comprises
15 precisely two arms each extending from said base [in a direction
perpendicular] parallel to said first [surface] direction,

 said base is adapted to respond to said first force by
flexing,

20 said flexing causes said base to urge said arms to
move relative to each other, and[,]

 said sensor is responsive to said arms by generating
25 an electric signal indicating said first force.